

University of Montana

ScholarWorks at University of Montana

University of Montana News Releases, 1928,
1956-present

University Relations

2-18-1969

Three road games ahead for Grizzly cagers

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases>

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "Three road games ahead for Grizzly cagers" (1969). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 4406.
<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases/4406>

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the University Relations at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.



THREE ROAD GAMES AHEAD
FOR GRIZZLY CAGERS

bill schwanke
2-18-69
sports one & basketball



sports

Information Services • University of Montana • Missoula, Montana 59801 • (406) 243-2522

MISSOULA---

Montana's Grizzly cagers will be facing one of their toughest road trips of the season this week when they head west for two games against Gonzaga University and one against the University of Idaho within four days.

The Silvertips, 7-13 overall and 2-7 in the Big Sky Conference, have yet to win on the road, and lost their best chance to do so when they dropped a last-second decision to Portland State last Thursday, 84-83.

The Grizzlies are 2-0 against Idaho, but sustained the first of their 10 losses in a row at the hands of Gonzaga back in January. The Bulldogs whipped the Grizzlies 87-69 on the Field House floor in a rough-house contest.

The two victories over Idaho were close, with the first coming out 67-61 and the second going into overtime before Montana won it 57-56.

Since that time, the Vandals have found new scoring punch in center Jerry Smith, who has been hitting more than 20 per game in nearly every outing. Teamed with guard Jim Thacker, he makes the Vandals a team to be reckoned with. Idaho's 7-14 record is only slightly worse than Montana's.

Gonzaga has improved steadily since its win over Montana. The Zags, 9-11, have won five of their last nine outings, and lost by only two to powerful Weber State in overtime two weeks ago. Singling out any individual for Gonzaga is difficult, but 6-4 Steve Blaser, 6-2 Jim Bresnahan and 6-5 Joe McNair have been consistent performers for Coach Hank Anderson.

Grizzly Coach Bob Cope was upset, to say the least, over the Portland State loss. "We had 29 turnovers against them, and that's more than we should have in two games," he said. "Our kids were lethargic, and that's putting it mildly."

He said only three Grizzlies did what could be called a decent job. Guards Harold Ross and Don Wetzel had good games, he said, and he also praised the hustle of forward Steve Brown.

more

"Outside of those three, it would be hard to say anyone did a good job," Cope said. "We were in good position to blow the Vikings off their own court, and instead we gave them the ball game."

The Grizzlies led by 11 with about three minutes left, and ended up losing by the one point. Turnovers and missed free throws during the final few minutes were costly, and Portland State hit a hot shooting streak at about the same time.

As far as starters for this weekend are concerned, Cope couldn't name any. "We haven't decided yet, but I will say there could be a lot of changes made," he said.

The 25-point performance by Ross against Portland State moved him into the Grizzly scoring lead for the second time this season. He is averaging 17.4 points per game, followed by forward Ron Moore at 16.9 and center George Yule at 10.9.

Yule is the team's leading rebounder with 8.2 per game, followed by Moore with 6.1. The 6-8 pivot man also tops regulars in field goal shooting with 47.6 per cent, and again Moore is close behind with 47.3. Ross has the lead in free throw shooting with 71.3 per cent, and is far out in front in assists with 147. He had 12 assists against the Vikings Thursday.

Following this weekend's games against Gonzaga and Idaho, the Grizzlies will return home to wrap up the season with games against Weber State Feb. 28 and March 1 and against Idaho State March 3.

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA VARSITY BASKETBALL STATISTICS (20 Games: 7-13)

PLAYER, POS.	G	FG-FGA	PCT.	FT-FTA	PCT.	SH.M	REB	AVG.	PF-D	ASSTS.	PTS.	AVG.
Harold Ross, G	20	119-271	.439	109-153	.713	196	54	2.7	58-1	147	347	17.4
Ron Moore, F	20	133-281	.473	72-108	.667	184	122	6.1	64-2	53	338	16.9
George Yule, C	20	78-164	.476	62-96	.639	121	163	8.2	62-3	23	218	10.9
Dave Gustafson, G-F	19	35-87	.403	34-52	.654	70	52	2.7	31-0	55	104	5.5
Mike Heroux, G	20	44-115	.382	13-23	.566	81	40	2.0	27-1	39	101	5.1
Sid Rhinehart, F	18	37-78	.474	17-29	.586	53	74	4.1	33-0	11	91	5.1
Steve Brown, F-C	14	30-70	.429	9-12	.750	43	41	2.9	24-0	14	69	4.9
Don Wetzel, G	14	19-51	.373	12-23	.522	43	15	1.1	11-0	9	50	3.6
Ray Dirindin, F	15	20-43	.466	8-11	.727	26	29	1.9	17-1	7	48	3.2
Mark Agather, F	4	12-25	.480	16-19	.843	16	24	6.0	17-2	6	40	10.0
Max Agather, F	15	13-38	.342	11-14	.786	28	38	2.7	23-1	9	37	2.5
John Cheek, G	9	3-11	.273	5-9	.556	12	10	1.1	5-0	8	11	1.2
Howard Clark, F	1	1-3	.333	2-4	.500	4	9	9.0	5-1	2	4	4.0
Stan Yoder, F	1	1-1	1.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0.0	0-0	0	2	2.0
Jim Clawsen, C-F	6	0-2	.000	2-3	.667	3	6	1.0	3-0	2	2	0.3
TEAM REBOUNDS-----157												
MONTANA TOTALS	20	545-1240	.439	372-557	.668	880	834	41.7	380-12	385	1462	73.1
OPPONENT TOTALS	20	632-1428	.443	343-504	.681	957	1003	50.2	435-20	---	1607	80.4

BIG SKY CONFERENCE STATISTICS (9 Games: 2-7)

PLAYER, POS.	G	FG-FGA	PCT.	FT-FTA	PCT.	SH.M	REB	AVG.	PF-D	ASSTS.	PTS.	AVG.
Ron Moore, F	9	60-129	.465	32-46	.696	83	47	5.2	27-0	28	152	16.9
Harold Ross, G	9	50-120	.417	50-62	.807	82	23	2.6	26-1	65	150	16.7
George Yule, C	9	31-79	.393	27-45	.600	66	71	7.9	24-1	11	89	9.9
Dave Gustafson, G-F	9	17-45	.378	14-24	.583	38	23	2.6	18-0	27	48	5.3
Mike Heroux, G	9	19-54	.352	4-11	.364	42	25	2.8	13-0	15	42	4.7
Sid Rhinehart, F	9	14-29	.483	10-12	.833	17	34	3.8	17-0	4	38	4.2
Ray Dirindin, F	6	12-23	.522	3-4	.750	12	16	2.7	3-0	5	27	4.5
Steve Brown, F-C	7	10-21	.477	5-5	1.000	11	12	1.7	12-0	5	25	3.6
Max Agather, F	9	8-25	.320	8-10	.800	19	29	3.2	17-1	8	24	2.7
Don Wetzel, G	6	5-11	.455	5-7	.714	8	3	0.5	4-0	3	15	2.5
John Cheek, G	6	2-6	.333	3-7	.429	8	4	0.7	3-0	2	7	1.2
Jim Clawsen, C-F	4	0-0	.000	2-3	.667	1	3	0.8	3-0	2	2	0.5
TEAM REBOUNDS---66												
MONTANA TOTALS	9	228-542	.421	163-236	.692	387	356	39.6	167-3	175	619	68.8
OPPONENT TOTALS	9	279-654	.433	159-220	.723	427	458	50.1	184-7	---	717	79.7

RESULTS

UM 100, Seattle Pacific 89	*Gonzaga 87, UM 69
UM 62, St. Cloud State 57	*Idaho State 80, UM 73
Washington State 90, UM 57	*Idaho State 82, UM 72
UM 85, Northern Iowa 75	*Weber State 91, UM 61
UM 100, Washington State 96	*Montana State 93, UM 74
UM 75, Northern Michigan 66 (3ot)	*Montana State 85, UM 68
Southern Illinois 88, UM 66	St. Francis (Pa.) 96, UM 79
San Diego State 71, UM 61	Washington 78, UM 75
*UM 67, Idaho 61	*Montana State 82, UM 78
*UM 57, Idaho 56 (ot)	Portland State 84, UM 83